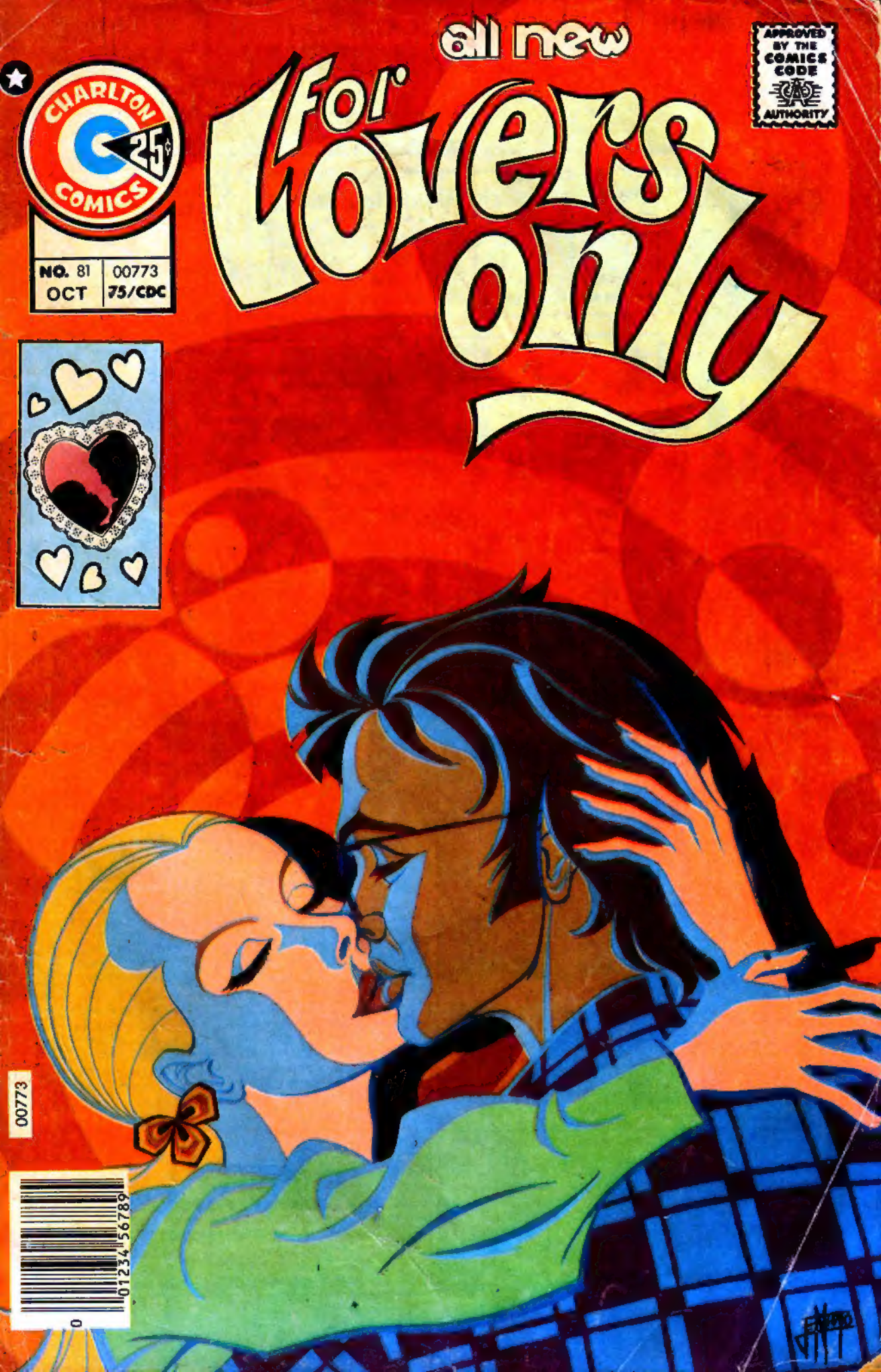
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For Lovers only
CHARLTON COMICS
25¢
NO. 81
OCT
00773
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00773

I GUESS YOU'VE ALL HEARD THAT EXPRESSION "ONE FOR THE ROAD"... MEANING ONE MORE DRINK, USUALLY AFTER THE DRINKER HAS ALREADY HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH! IN THIS ERA OF POT, ACID, TRANKS, AND ALL THE OTHER GARBAGE SOME KIDS DO, I HAD TO GO AND GET INVOLVED WITH ONE OF THE DEADLIEST THINGS OF ALL... BOOZE! IT BEGAN INNOCENTLY ENOUGH (DON'T MOST THINGS?) WHEN I MET REB HAWKINS AT HAL ROBBINS' COTTAGE...

THIS IS A GREAT WINE, REB! EVE, DRINK UP... WE'RE WAY AHEAD OF YOU!

I'M NOT MUCH OF A DRINKER, REB... REB?

A FEW WON'T HURT, EVE... JOIN THE CLUB!

ONE FOR THE ROAD

D-5784

ACTUALLY, I'D NEVER HAD A DRINK BEFORE... AND THE WINE WAS COLD FIRE AS IT WENT DOWN... I REALLY LIKED IT!

1

FOR LOVERS ONLY

FOR LOVERS ONLY Vol. 8, No. 81, October, 1975,
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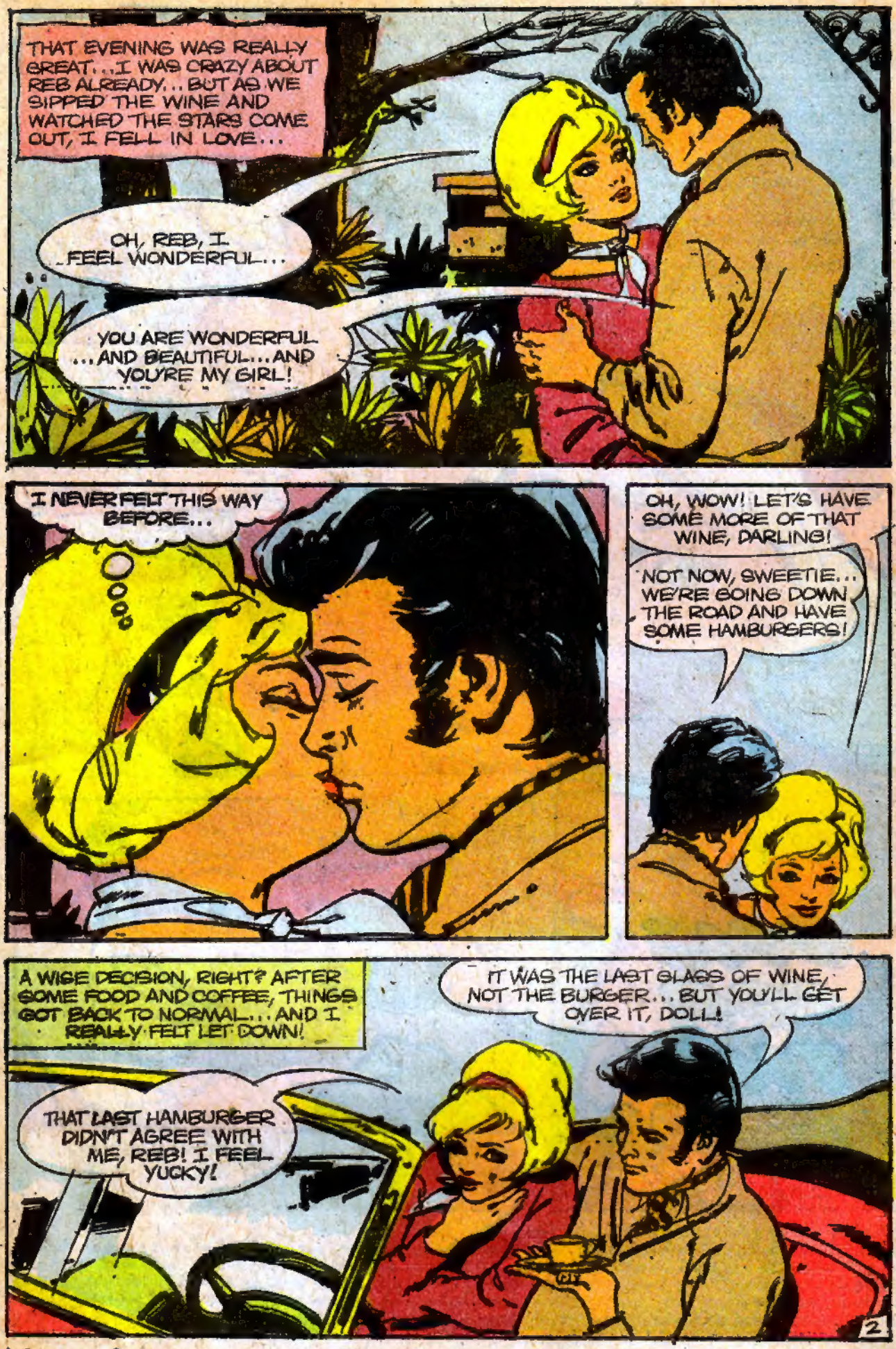
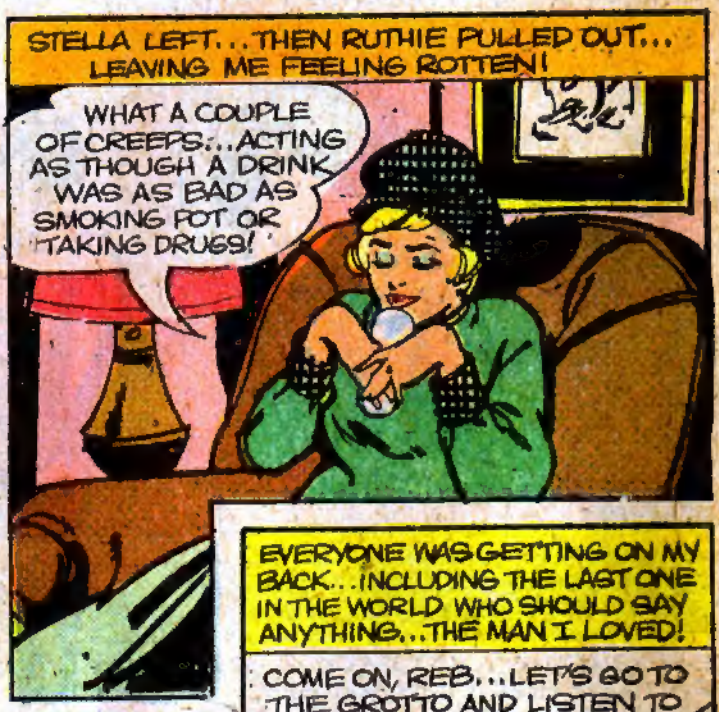
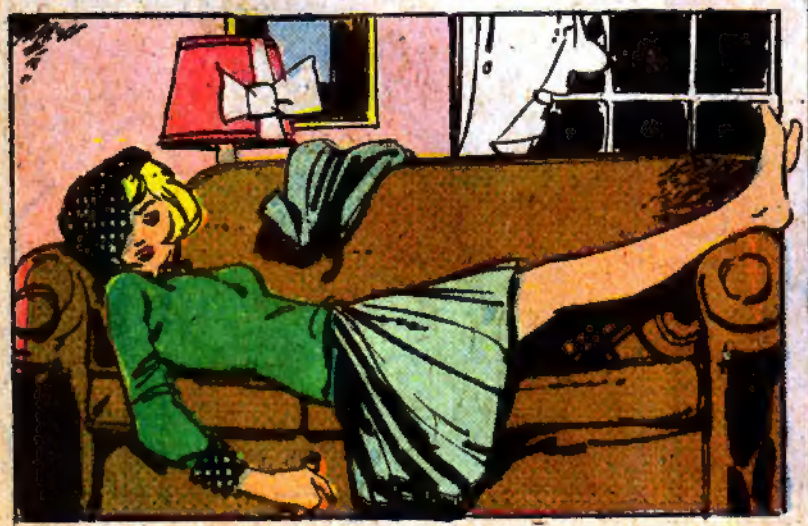

THAT EVENING WAS REALLY GREAT...I WAS CRAZY ABOUT REB ALREADY...BUT AS WE SIPPED THE WINE AND WATCHED THE STARS COME OUT, I FELL IN LOVE...
OH, REB, I FEEL WONDERFUL...
YOU ARE WONDERFUL ...AND BEAUTIFUL...AND YOU'RE MY GIRL!
I NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE...
OH, WOW! LET'S HAVE SOME MORE OF THAT WINE, DARLING!
NOT NOW, SWEETIE... WE'RE GOING DOWN THE ROAD AND HAVE SOME HAMBURGERS!
A WISE DECISION, RIGHT? AFTER SOME FOOD AND COFFEE, THINGS GOT BACK TO NORMAL... AND I REALLY FELT LET DOWN!
IT WAS THE LAST GLASS OF WINE, NOT THE BURGER... BUT YOU'LL GET OVER IT, DOLL!
THAT LAST HAMBURGER DIDN'T AGREE WITH ME, REB! I FEEL YUCKY!
2

REB AND HIS FRIENDS HAD SOME FAR-OUT PARTIES ...THEY LIKED BEER, WINE, OR WHATEVER SEEMED APPROPRIATE FOR THE OCCASION!
HEY, CHICK... TAKE IT SLOW... THE PARTY'S JUST STARTING!
I CAN'T HELP IT, REB... I LOVE THESE THINGS!
YEAH, BUT YOU LOVE ME TOO... AND IT'S NO FUN FOR ME IF I HAVE TO TAKE YOU HOME EARLY!
ALL RIGHT, DARLING ...THIS IS MY LAST DRINK!
I REALLY MEANT IT...AND REB WAS PLEASED!
I'VE BEEN SO HAPPY SINCE I MET REB... AND SO THIRSTY!
I WAS REALLY INTO DRINKING BY THEN... IT SEEMED HARMLESS AND A REAL BLAST!
EVE, WHAT'S WITH YOU AND THIS WINE ROUTINE? EVERY TIME WE GET TOGETHER LATELY, YOU GET SLOSHED!
THAT'S AN EXAGGERATION, STELLA! A LITTLE WINE ONCE IN AWHILE RELAXES ME...IN FACT, IT'S GOOD FOR YOU!
3

HOOKED? THAT'S STUPID... I MEAN REALLY DUMB... A DRINK ONCE IN AWHILE WILL NEVER HURT ANYONE!
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IS FULL OF PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T THINK THEY'D EVER GET HURT...


STELLA LEFT... THEN RUTHIE PULLED OUT... LEAVING ME FEELING ROTTEN!
WHAT A COUPLE OF CREEPS... ACTING AS THOUGH A DRINK WAS AS BAD AS SMOKING POT OR TAKING DRUGS!



EVERYONE WAS GETTING ON MY BACK... INCLUDING THE LAST ONE IN THE WORLD WHO SHOULD SAY ANYTHING... THE MAN I LOVED!
COME ON, REB... LET'S GO TO THE GROTTO AND LISTEN TO THE JUKE!
YOU MEAN LET'S HAVE A FEW DRINKS, RIGHT?
4

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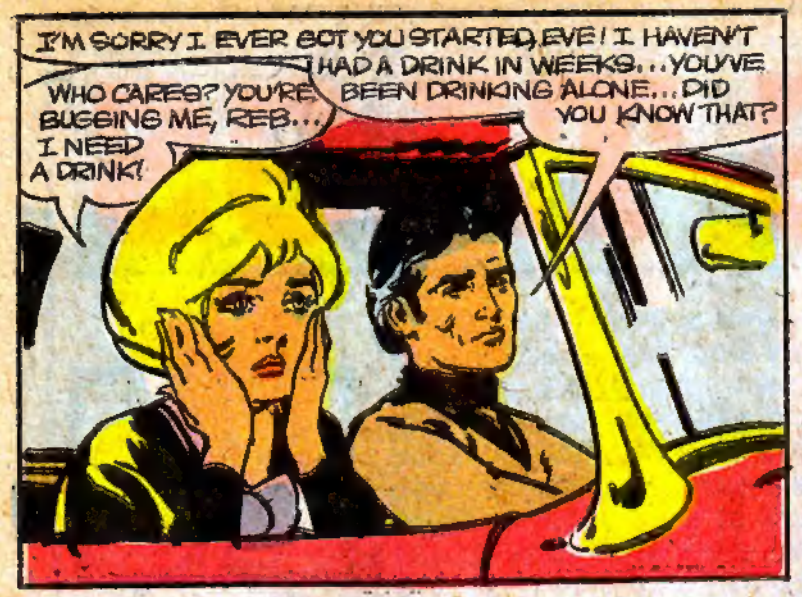

I'M SORRY I EVER GOT YOU STARTED, EVE! I HAVEN'T HAD A DRINK IN WEEKS... YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING ALONE... DID YOU KNOW THAT?
WHO CARES? YOU'RE BUGGING ME, REB... I NEED A DRINK!

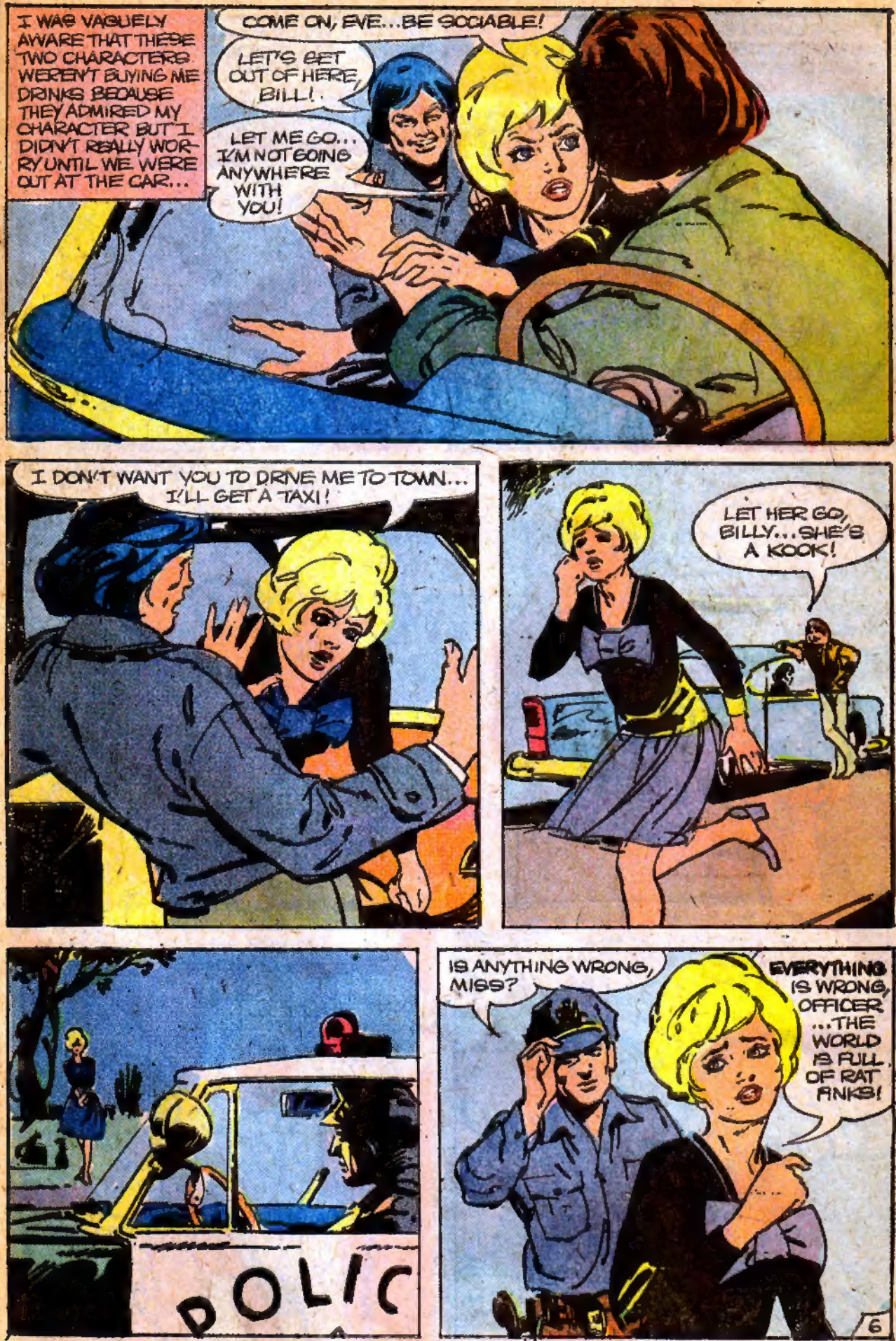
THAT'S THE KEY WORD, EVE... YOU SAID YOU NEED A DRINK! IT'S TIME TO GET OFF THE SAUCE WHEN IT GETS THAT BAD!

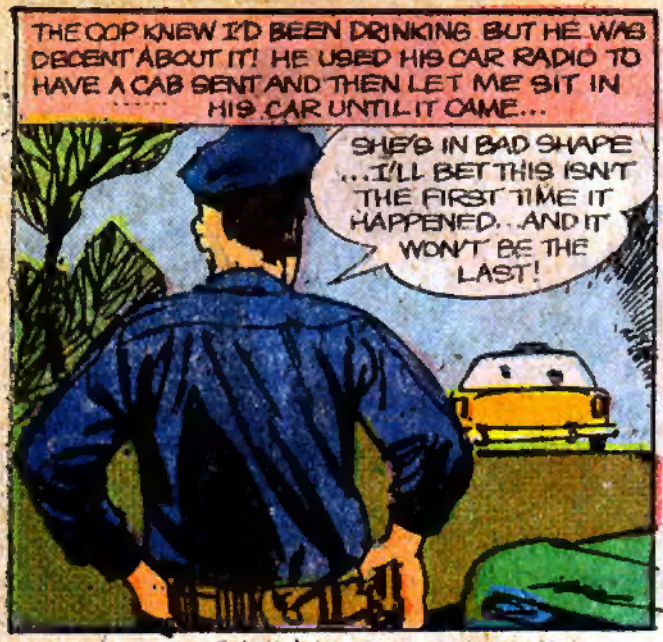
I CAN'T STAND IT WHEN YOU PREACH AT ME, REB! I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU... GET OUT OF MY LIFE!
EVE, WAIT!

HEY, THERE'S A BROAD... STOP AND PICK HER UP!

WHERE YOU HEADED, SWEETHEART?
BACK TO TOWN... BUT IF YOU WANT TO STOP FOR A DRINK FIRST, I COULD STAND ONE!

I WAS HEARTBROKEN... IT WAS THE WORST FIGHT REB AND I HAD EVER HAD... SO BECAUSE OF THAT I HAD MORE THAN ONE DRINK...
COME ON, BABY... WE'VE BEEN HERE TOO LONG ALREADY!
JUST ONE MORE, BILL ...ONE FOR THE ROAD!

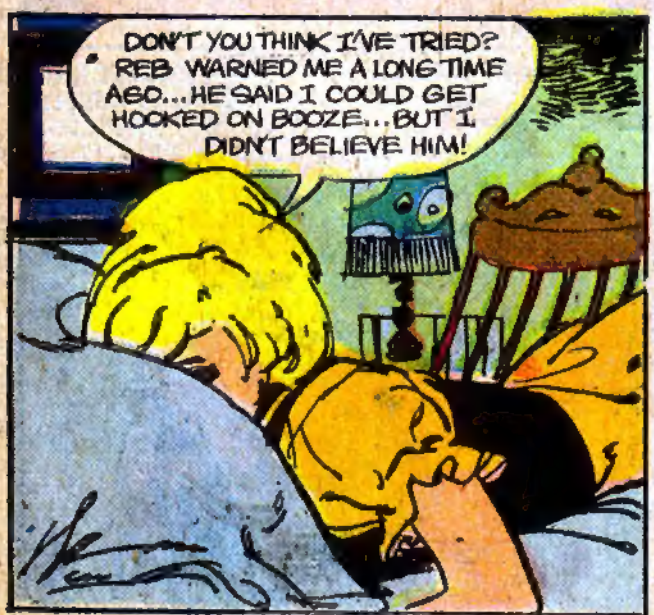

I WAS VAGUELY AWARE THAT THESE TWO CHARACTERS WEREN'T BUYING ME DRINKS BECAUSE THEY ADMIRED MY CHARACTER BUT I DIDN'T REALLY WORRY UNTIL WE WERE OUT AT THE CAR...
COME ON, EVE...BE SOCIABLE!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, BILL!
LET ME GO... I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITH YOU!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO DRIVE ME TO TOWN... I'LL GET A TAXI!
LET HER GO, BILLY...SHE'S A KOOK!
POLIC
IS ANYTHING WRONG, MISS?
EVERYTHING IS WRONG, OFFICER ...THE WORLD IS FULL OF RAT FINKS!
6


THE COP KNEW I'D BEEN DRINKING BUT HE WAS DECENT ABOUT IT! HE USED HIS CAR RADIO TO HAVE A CAB SENT AND THEN LET ME SIT IN HIS CAR UNTIL IT CAME...
SHE'S IN BAD SHAPE ...I'LL BET THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME IT HAPPENED...AND IT WON'T BE THE LAST!

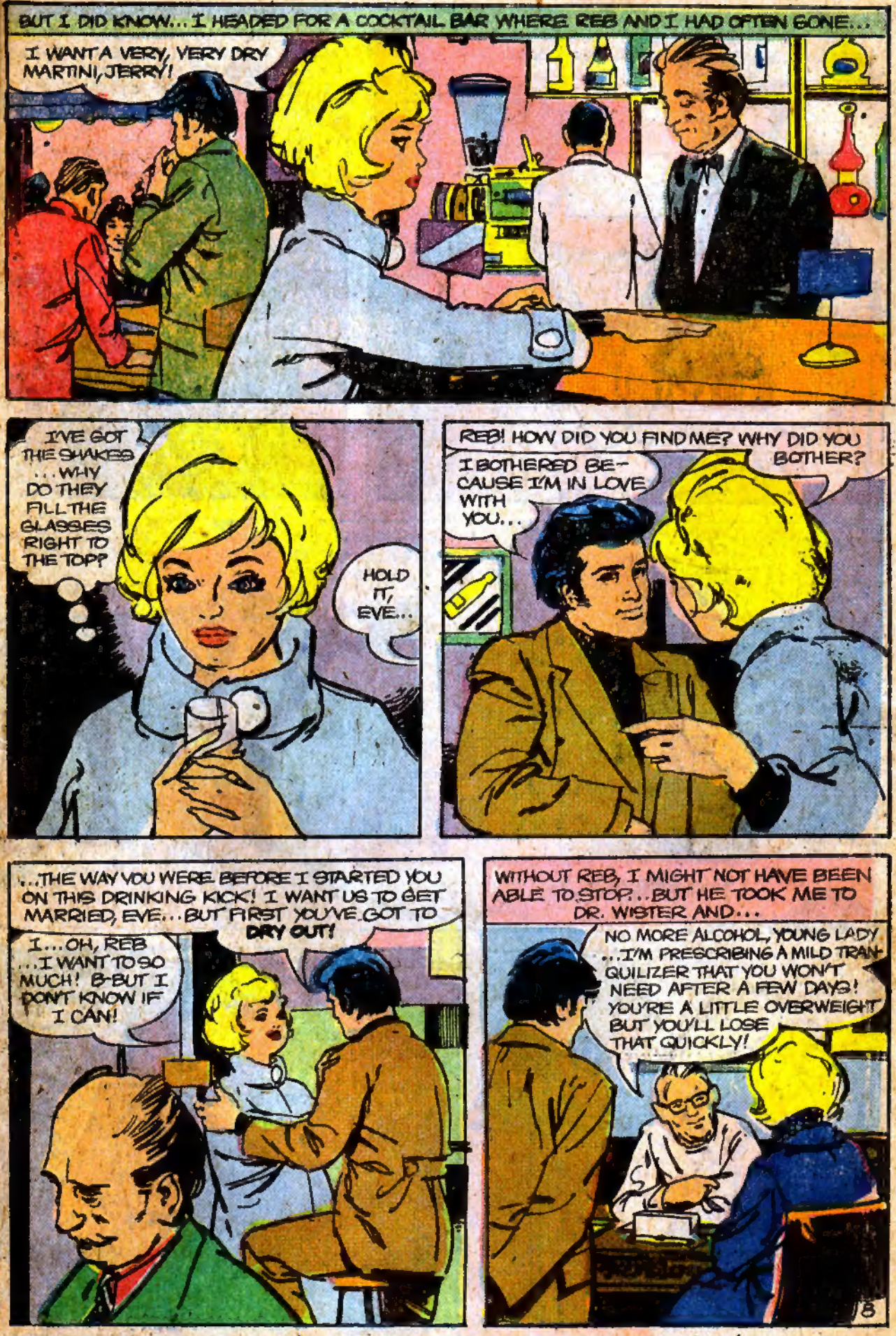
REB WILL CALL ME TOMORROW ...HE'LL REALIZE I DIDN'T MEAN WHAT I SAID!

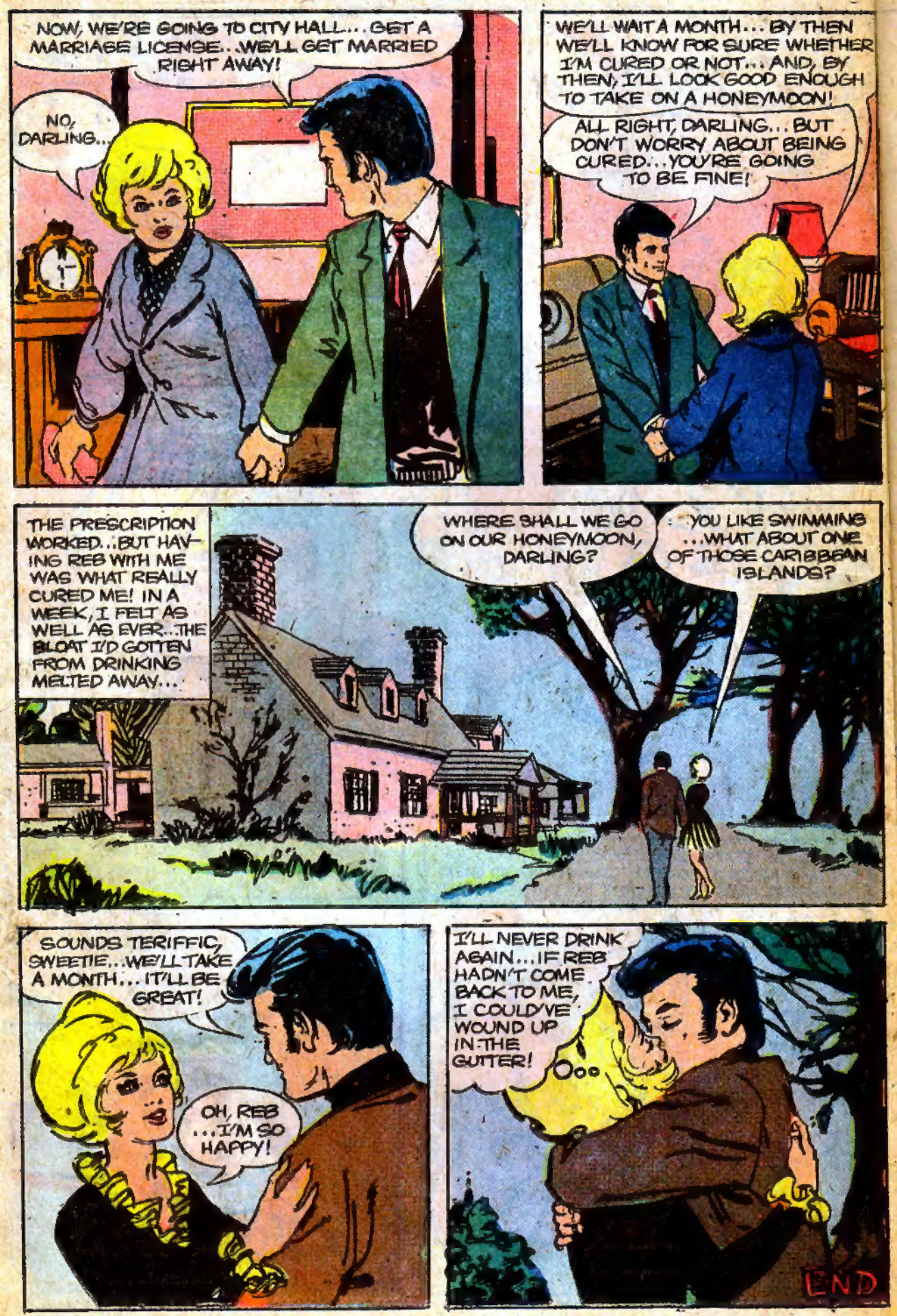
BUT HE DIDN'T CALL! I STAYED HOME FROM THE OFFICE (MY NERVES COULDN'T HAVE STOOD SPENDING THE DAY THERE ANYHOW)...
EVE, SINCE YOU STARTED GOING WITH REB HAWKINS, YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING ...YOU'D BETTER NOT SEE HIM ANYMORE!

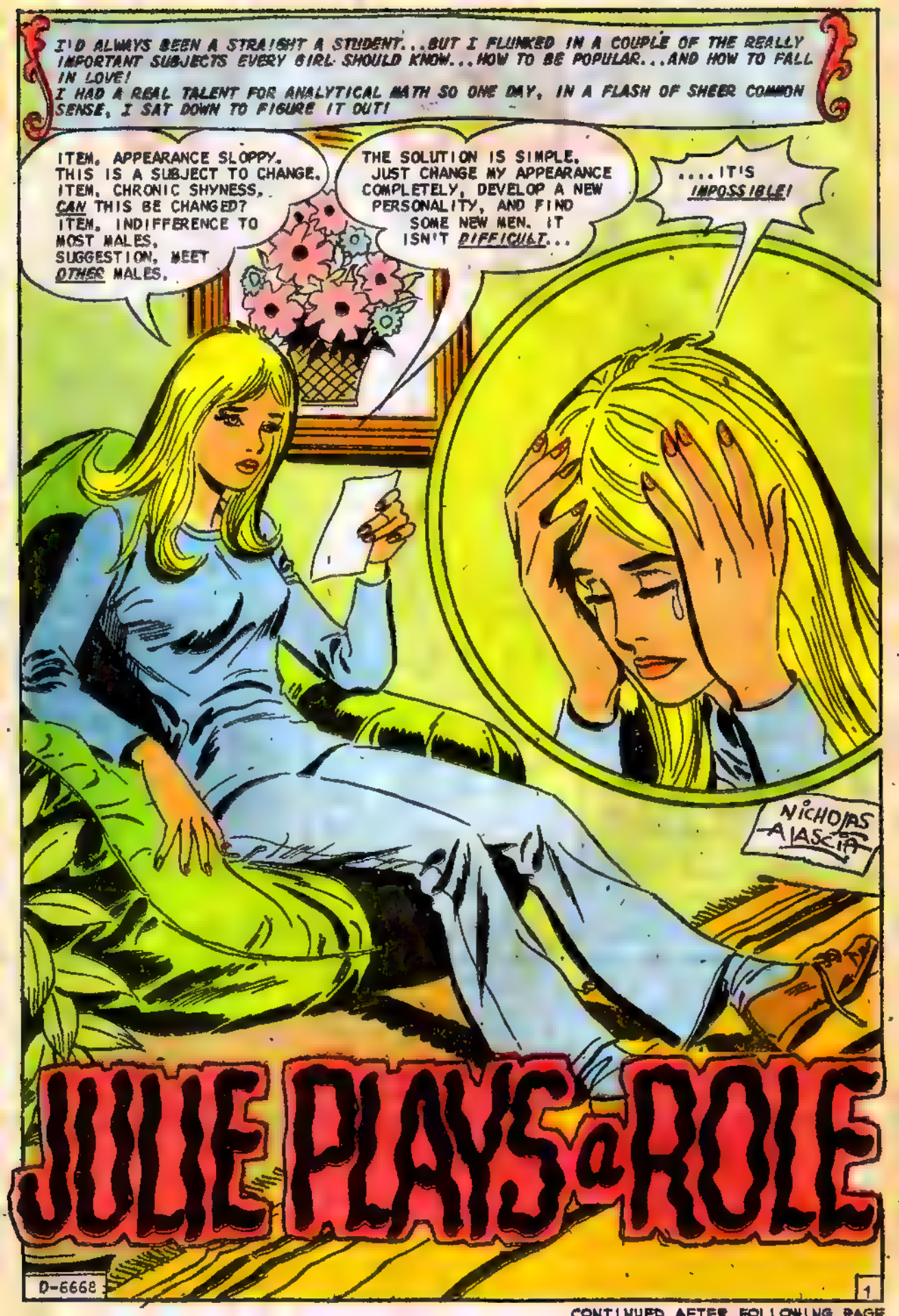
IT ISN'T REB'S FAULT, MOM! HE DOESN'T WANT ME TO DRINK...WE QUARRELED OVER THAT LAST NIGHT!
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU STOP?


DON'T YOU THINK I'VE TRIED? REB WARNED ME A LONG TIME AGO...HE SAID I COULD GET HOOKED ON BOOZE...BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM!

EVE...WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
DON'T ASK, MOM... I DON'T KNOW!


BUT I DID KNOW... I HEADED FOR A COCKTAIL BAR WHERE REB AND I HAD OFTEN GONE...
I WANT A VERY, VERY DRY MARTINI, JERRY!
I'VE GOT THE SHAKES ...WHY DO THEY FILL THE GLASSES RIGHT TO THE TOP?
HOLD IT, EVE...
REB! HOW DID YOU FIND ME? WHY DID YOU BOTHER?
I BOTHERED BE-CAUSE I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU...
...THE WAY YOU WERE BEFORE I STARTED YOU ON THIS DRINKING KICK! I WANT US TO GET MARRIED, EVE... BUT FIRST YOU'VE GOT TO DRY OUT!
I... OH, REB ...I WANT TO SO MUCH! B-BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN!
WITHOUT REB, I MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STOP... BUT HE TOOK ME TO DR. WISTER AND...
NO MORE ALCOHOL, YOUNG LADY ...I'M PRESCRIBING A MILD TRAN-QUILIZER THAT YOU WON'T NEED AFTER A FEW DAYS! YOU'RE A LITTLE OVERWEIGHT BUT YOU'LL LOSE THAT QUICKLY!
8


NOW, WE'RE GOING TO CITY HALL... GET A MARRIAGE LICENSE..WE'LL GET MARRIED RIGHT AWAY!
NO, DARLING...
WE'LL WAIT A MONTH... BY THEN WE'LL KNOW FOR SURE WHETHER I'M CURED OR NOT... AND, BY THEN, I'LL LOOK GOOD ENOUGH TO TAKE ON A HONEYMOON!
ALL RIGHT, DARLING... BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT BEING CURED...YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE!
THE PRESCRIPTION WORKED..BUT HAVING REB WITH ME WAS WHAT REALLY CURED ME! IN A WEEK, I FELT AS WELL AS EVER...THE BLOAT I'D GOTTEN FROM DRINKING MELTED AWAY...
WHERE SHALL WE GO ON OUR HONEYMOON, DARLING?
YOU LIKE SWIMMING ...WHAT ABOUT ONE OF THOSE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS?
SOUNDS TERIFFIC, SWEETIE...WE'LL TAKE A MONTH... IT'LL BE GREAT!
OH, REB ...I'M SO HAPPY!
I'LL NEVER DRINK AGAIN...IF REB HADN'T COME BACK TO ME, I COULD'VE WOUND UP IN THE GUTTER!
O...
END


I'D ALWAYS BEEN A STRAIGHT A STUDENT...BUT I FLUNKED IN A COUPLE OF THE REALLY IMPORTANT SUBJECTS EVERY GIRL SHOULD KNOW...HOW TO BE POPULAR...AND HOW TO FALL IN LOVE!
I HAD A REAL TALENT FOR ANALYTICAL MATH SO ONE DAY, IN A FLASH OF SHEER COMMON SENSE, I SAT DOWN TO FIGURE IT OUT!
ITEM, APPEARANCE SLOPPY. THIS IS A SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ITEM, CHRONIC SHYNESS. CAN THIS BE CHANGED?
ITEM, INDIFFERENCE TO MOST MALES.
SUGGESTION, MEET OTHER MALES.
THE SOLUTION IS SIMPLE. JUST CHANGE MY APPEARANCE COMPLETELY, DEVELOP A NEW PERSONALITY, AND FIND SOME NEW MEN. IT ISN'T DIFFICULT...
....IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
NICHOLAS ALASCIA
JULIE PLAYS a ROLE
D-6668
1

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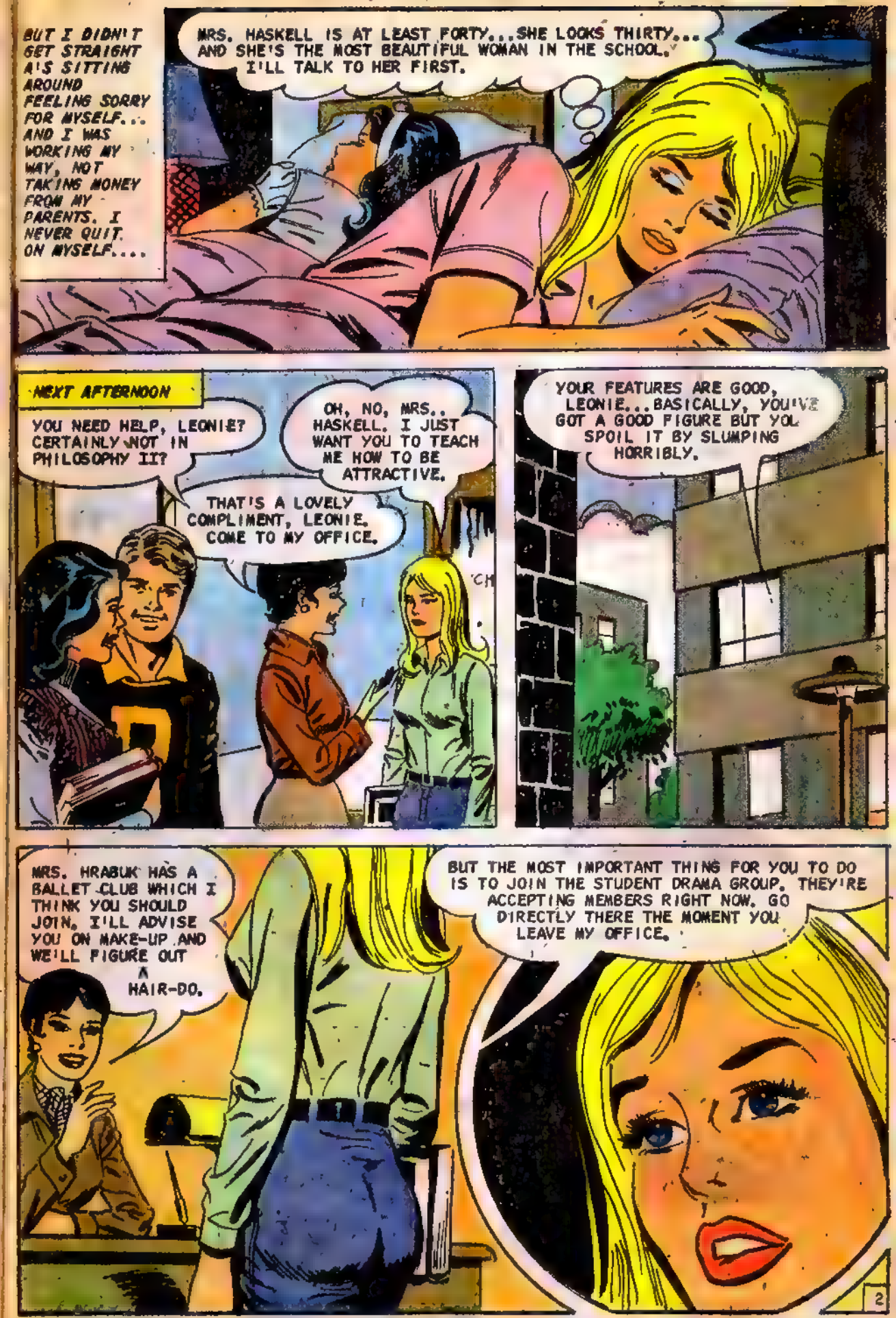
BUT I DIDN'T GET STRAIGHT A'S SITTING AROUND FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF... AND I WAS WORKING MY WAY, NOT TAKING MONEY FROM MY PARENTS. I NEVER QUIT ON MYSELF....
MRS. HASKELL IS AT LEAST FORTY...SHE LOOKS THIRTY... AND SHE'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE SCHOOL. I'LL TALK TO HER FIRST.
NEXT AFTERNOON
YOU NEED HELP, LEONIE? CERTAINLY NOT IN PHILOSOPHY II?
OH, NO, MRS.. HASKELL. I JUST WANT YOU TO TEACH ME HOW TO BE ATTRACTIVE.
THAT'S A LOVELY COMPLIMENT, LEONIE. COME TO MY OFFICE.
YOUR FEATURES ARE GOOD, LEONIE...BASICALLY, YOU'VE GOT A GOOD FIGURE BUT YOU SPOIL IT BY SLUMPING HORRIBLY.
MRS. HRABUK HAS A BALLET CLUB WHICH I THINK YOU SHOULD JOIN. I'LL ADVISE YOU ON MAKE-UP AND WE'LL FIGURE OUT A HAIR-DO.
BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR YOU TO DO IS TO JOIN THE STUDENT DRAMA GROUP. THEY'RE ACCEPTING MEMBERS RIGHT NOW. GO DIRECTLY THERE THE MOMENT YOU LEAVE MY OFFICE.
2

DRAMA GROUP! I'D BEEN PATHOLOGICALLY SHY...I ALMOST CHICKENED OUT BUT I FORCED MYSELF TO GO INTO THE SMALL AUDITORIUM USED BY THE DRAMA GROUP!
...AND THIS ROLE SHOULD BE PORTRAYED ROBUSTLY AND...I BEG YOUR PARDON.
I THINK WE'VE GOT A RE-CRUIT, MR. WYLY. YOU'RE LEONIE BIBBS, AREN'T YOU?
WE'RE IN THE SAME POLITICAL TRENDS CLASS, LEONIE. I'VE OFTEN THOUGHT YOU'D MAKE A FINE ACTRESS.
WELCOME TO OUR GROUP, LEONIE. LATER, PERHAPS, ELIOT WILL BRIEF YOU ON WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED AT OUR PREVIOUS MEETING.
ELIOT, YOU'VE GOT A COMEDIC KNACK.. YOU TRY THE ROLE OF THE DUMB LAWYER. NOW, WE NEED A KOOKY TEEN-AGER...
LEONIE OUGHT TO BE GOOD AT THAT!
MR. WYLY ACTUALLY HAD ME READ SOME OF MY LINES RIGHT THEN....
...AND THIS GEAR-HEAD EXPECTED ME TO BUY THE GAS ON OUR FIRST DATE.
WELL READ, LEONIE, BUT YOU MUST PROJECT YOUR VOICE!
3

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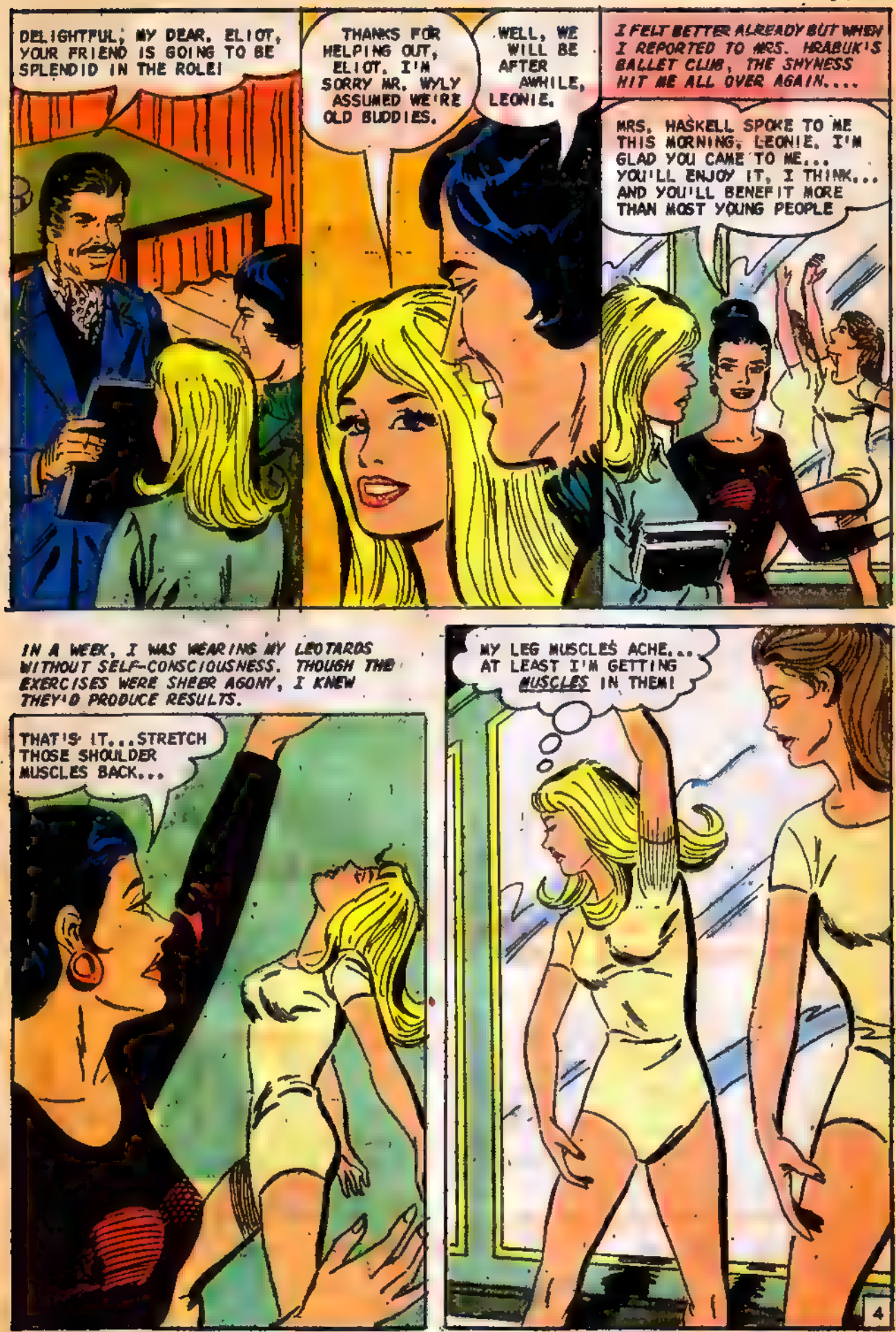
DELIGHTFUL, MY DEAR, ELIOT, YOUR FRIEND IS GOING TO BE SPLENDID IN THE ROLE!
THANKS FOR HELPING OUT, ELIOT. I'M SORRY MR. WYLY ASSUMED WE'RE OLD BUDDIES.
WELL, WE WILL BE AFTER AWHILE, LEONIE.
I FELT BETTER ALREADY BUT WHEN I REPORTED TO MRS. HRABUK'S BALLET CLUB, THE SHYNESS HIT ME ALL OVER AGAIN....
MRS. HASKELL SPOKE TO ME THIS MORNING, LEONIE. I'M GLAD YOU CAME TO ME... YOU'LL ENJOY IT, I THINK... AND YOU'LL BENEFIT MORE THAN MOST YOUNG PEOPLE
IN A WEEK, I WAS WEARING MY LEOTARDS WITHOUT SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS. THOUGH THE EXERCISES WERE SHEER AGONY, I KNEW THEY'D PRODUCE RESULTS.
THAT'S IT...STRETCH THOSE SHOULDER MUSCLES BACK...
MY LEG MUSCLES ACHE... AT LEAST I'M GETTING MUSCLES IN THEM!
4

MRS. HASKELL TAUGHT ME ABOUT MAKE-UP... AND WE TRIED DIFFERENT WAYS OF FIXING MY HAIR!
YOU HAVE A VERY MOD LOOK NOW, LEONIE. I THINK IT FITS YOUR PERSONALITY.
YOU'RE REALLY CHANGING, LEONIE. I LIKED YOU BEFORE BECAUSE YOU'RE INTERESTING AND FUN - TO BE WITH... BUT SUDDENLY YOU'RE A LOT MORE ATTRACTIVE.
THANK YOU, ELIOT... BUT I PREFER YOUR FIRST TWO REASONS FOR LIKING ME TO THE LAST.
MR. WYLY NOTICED IT TOO, LEONIE..
HE'S CONCERNED...THE ROLE YOU'RE REHEARSING DOESN'T CALL FOR A SMASHING BEAUTY...HE LIKED YOU AS YOU WERE IN THE BEGINNING.
HE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY, ELIOT... I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
5

HOLD IT, KIDS! LEONIE, WHEN YOU FIRST READ FOR THAT ROLE, YOU HAD AN AWKWARD, SHY MANNER... IT WAS PERFECT FOR THE PART. NOW YOU LOOK DIFFERENT.
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT, MR. WYLY!
I EXCUSED MYSELF... WENT TO THE LADIES' ROOM AND...
LET'S RUN THROUGH IT AGAIN, SHALL WE?
I REMEMBERED HOW TO LOOK AWKWARD AND SHY... IT WAS FRIGHTENINGLY EASY TO BACKSLIDE INTO THAT OLD RECESSIVE PERSONALITY!
SPLENDID, LEONIE!
WE'RE HAVING A SPAGHETTI COOK-IN AT THE STUDENT UNION TOMORROW NIGHT, LEONIE. WANT TO TRY THE PASTA WITH ME?
I'D LOVE IT, ELIOT...
ELIOT WALKED ME TO THE GIRL'S DORM....
6

I DATED ELIOT, AND I WENT TO PARTIES WITH HIM AS WELL. WAS IT TERRIFIC! THEN, OTHERS INVITED ME PLACES...ELIOT TOLD ME TO ACCEPT IF I LIKED...A WHOLE NEW WORLD OPENED UP FOR ME!
I SAW LESS OF ELIOT IN THE SPRING...AND I MISSED HIM, SO...
ALL RIGHT, ELIOT ...WHAT HAVE I DONE WRONG?
NOTHING, LEONIE. I THINK YOU'RE TERRIFIC.
COME ON, ELIOT. BE HONEST WITH ME...WHAT'S YOUR BEEF?
WELL, YOU'VE BECOME A VERY ATTRACTIVE GIRL, LEONIE.
YOU'VE GOT A FINE MIND...YOU USED TO HAVE A GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR...BUT LATELY YOU'RE MORE SHOW AND LESS GO! I'LL BET YOUR MARKS HAVE BEEN IN INVERSE RATIO TO YOUR POPULARITY.
I'VE GOTTEN A FEW BAD ONES LATELY, ELIOT.
THANKS, ELIOT... AND HOW ABOUT BUYING ME A SODA TONIGHT? I'VE DECIDED I WANT TO CUT DOWN ON MY POPULARITY!
LOVE IT, LEONIE.
SO, I'D HAD MY FLING...AND NOW I WAS BACK WHERE I BELONGED ...IN ELIOT'S ARMS!
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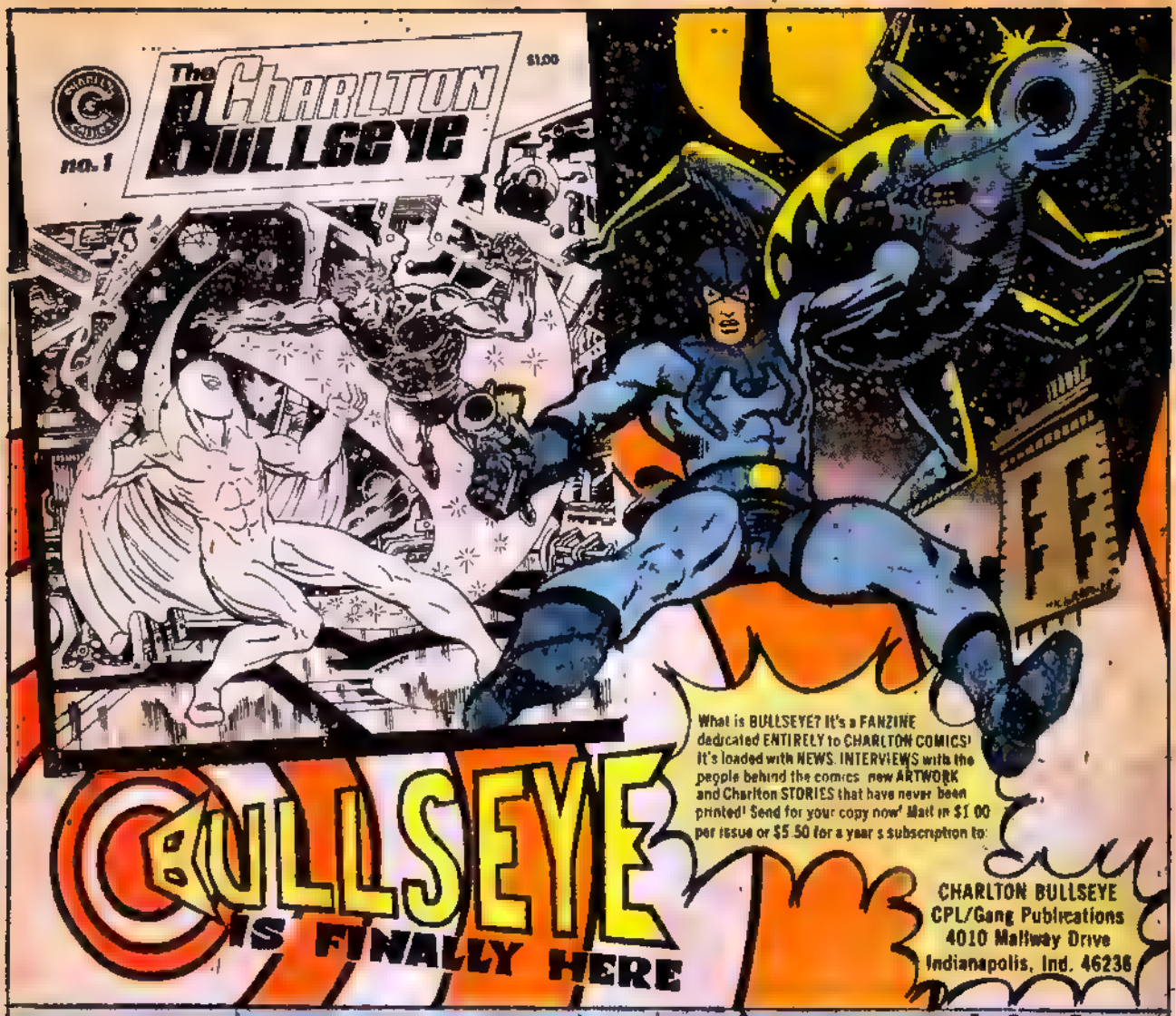
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Buck Mason is a specialist in teen-age problems who will be writing for this publication. He has had a wide range of experience with young people, and welcomes the chance to help you with any problems you might have. Just write him a letter, stating your situation clearly and briefly, and be sure to give all important facts. Names will be withheld in all cases, and there cannot be any personal replies.

Dear Buck:

I am fifteen years old and have been dating Randy for three years now. I've been pre-engaged to him for the past ten months. We used to get into a lot of arguments, but we don't anymore. I love Randy a lot and he loves me, too. We are planning to get married, but I'll have to finish school first.

Now comes the problem: my aunt has some relatives in another town, and I've been going down there with her quite a bit this summer. This last time when I went, I met a good-looking boy named Jay. I dated Jay twice, and I found that I really like him a lot. I think he likes me, too. Before I left, he gave me his address, and I wrote to him. I'm not really sure how he feels about me, but in my letter I told him how I felt about him. I should be getting a reply soon.

Anyway, when I got home I told Randy about Jay and he broke up with me for two days. Then he came back and said that he couldn't do without me. I wanted to go back to him because I love him, but then again I didn't want to because I knew if I did he wouldn't let me go back to this town and see Jay.

Signed,
Undecided

Dear Undecided:

It sounds as if you have a case of wanting to "have your cake and eat it, too", to use the old cliche. You want Randy, but at the same time you also want to go out with Jay. You can't have both, so you're going to have to decide who you like more. (Remember to take into consideration the fact that Jay may only be a passing crush.) One thing is certain: you're not ready for marriage, or any kind of an engagement. It may be romantic to think about, but you're not prepared for it.

Sincerely,
Buck

Dear Buck:

I am fifteen years old and I have two boyfriends, but there is this guy who lives on my block who also likes me. There's a problem, though: he's thirty-five years old and married. One day he told me that he loved me and he asked if I loved him. I was so surprised and confused that I couldn't say anything. Now, every time he sees me he tells me he loves me, and he has asked me to go out with him someday. I wanted to tell him that he shouldn't love me because he's already married, but the words just wouldn't come out. I like him a lot because he is kind, good-looking and attractive. I've been trying to hide myself from him for the past few days, but it hasn't worked.

I believe he isn't a bad guy, but I also think he isn't a very good guy, either. I wanted to tell him just what I thought of him, but I couldn't, because I was afraid he might be hurt if I told him that I didn't like him because he was married. I don't want to hurt anyone — him, his wife or myself. Is there any way for me to tell him that he shouldn't love a teen-age girl like me or anyone else but his wife? Please help me!

Thank you,
Desperate

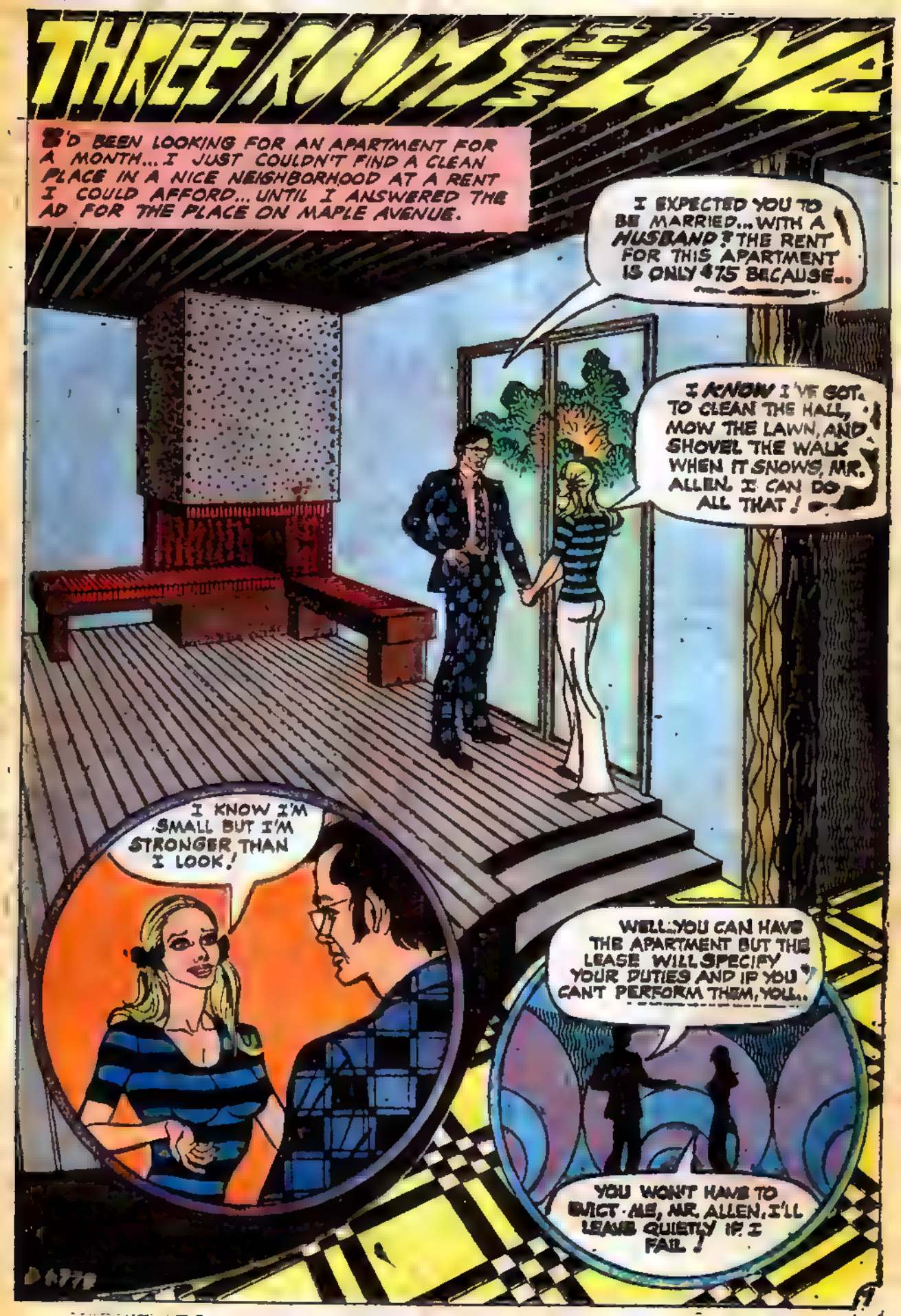
Dear Desperate:

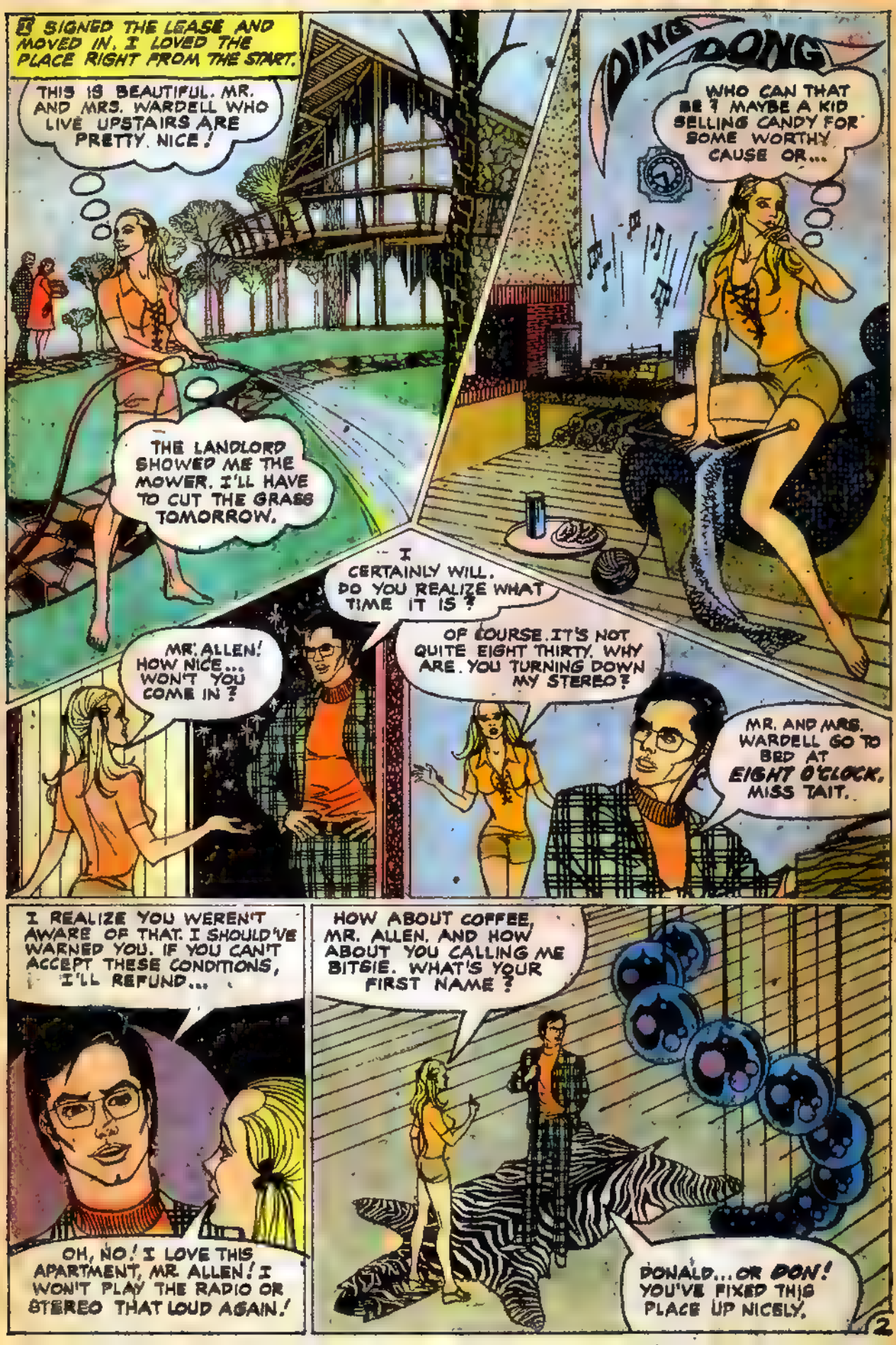
Yes, there is a way to tell him and that's plainly and directly. After you do that, stay away from him as much as possible to avoid temptation. Do it now, before it's too late. He has a lot to realize, and the sooner you set him straight, the better.

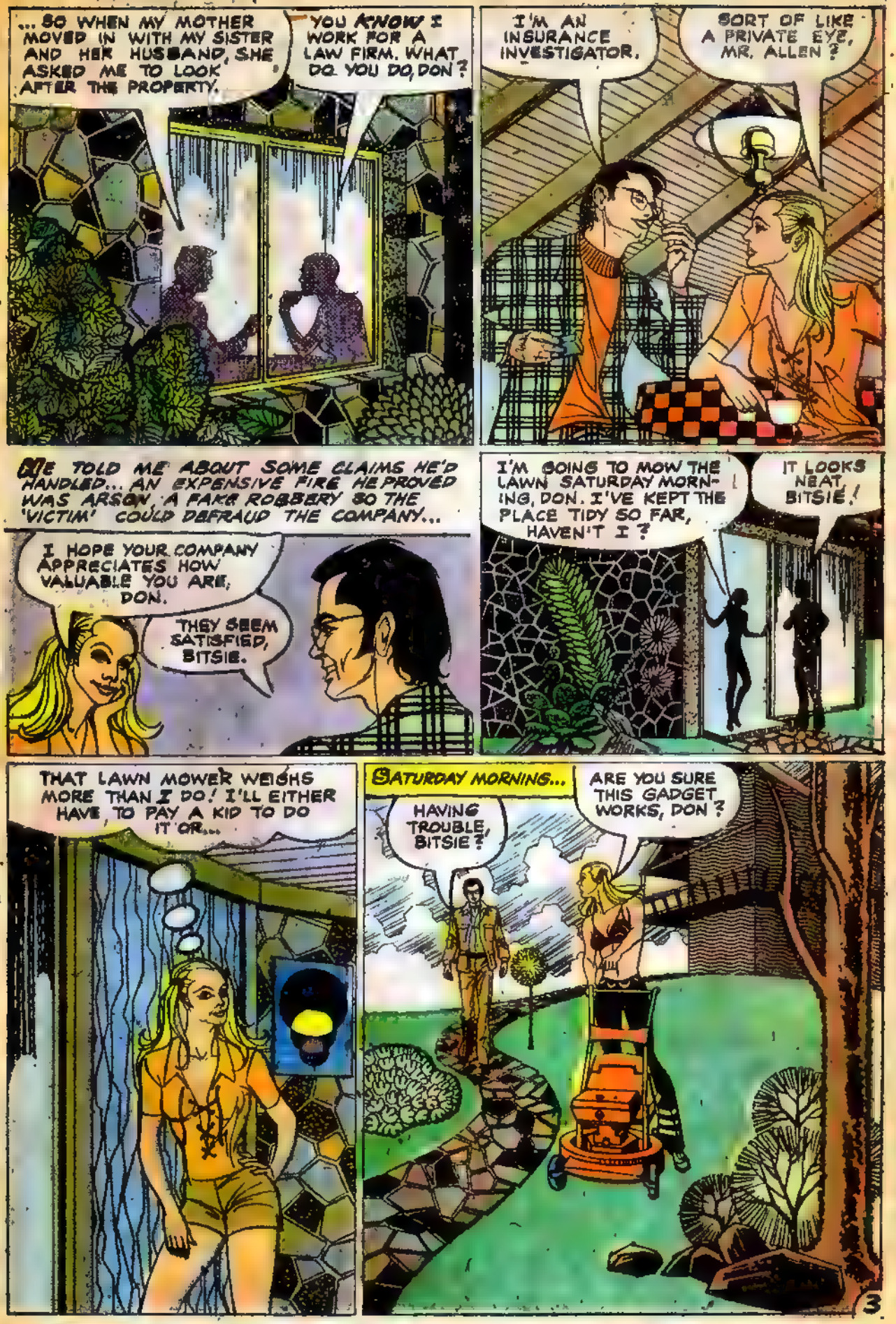
Yours truly,
Buck

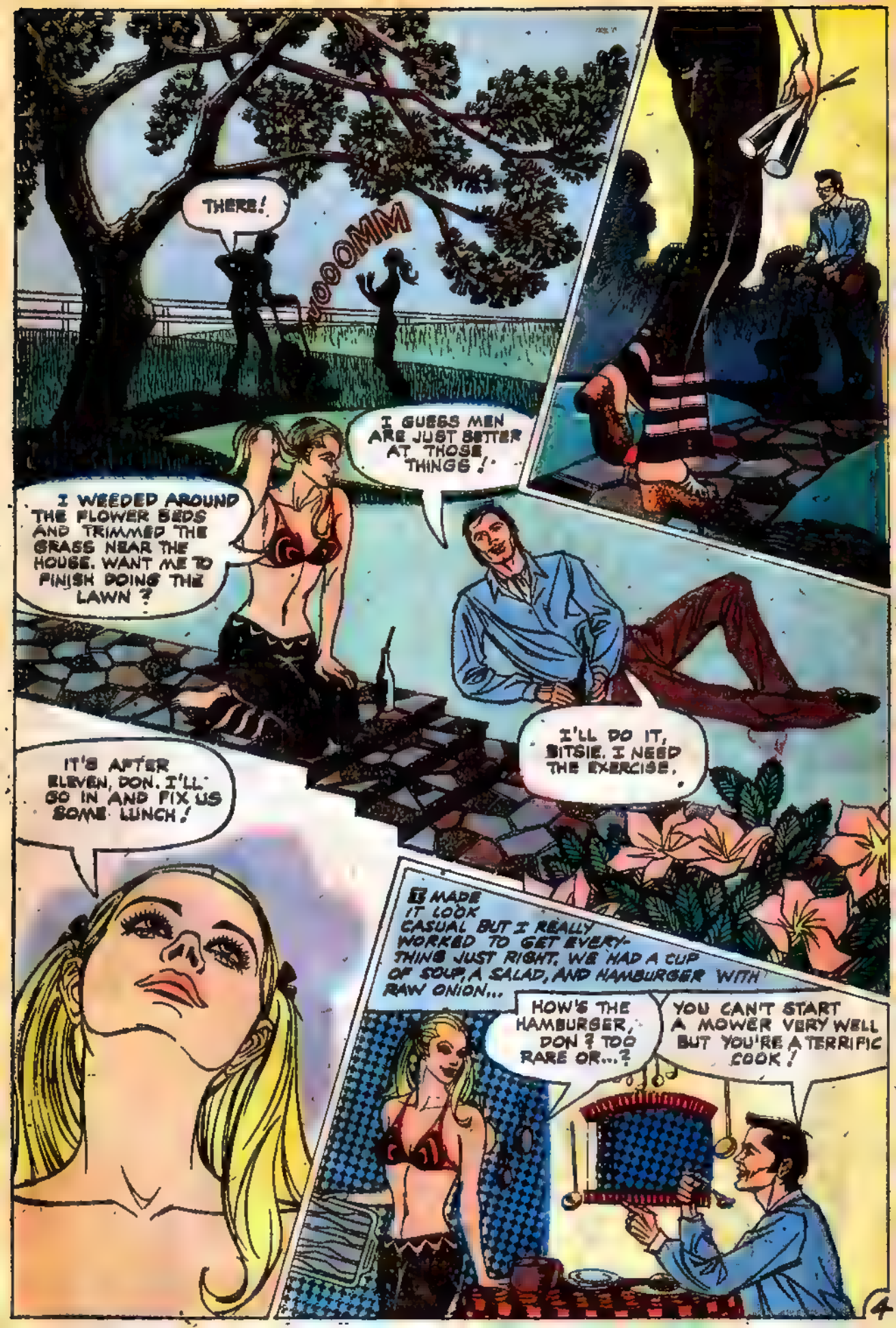
Have a problem? Write a letter to:

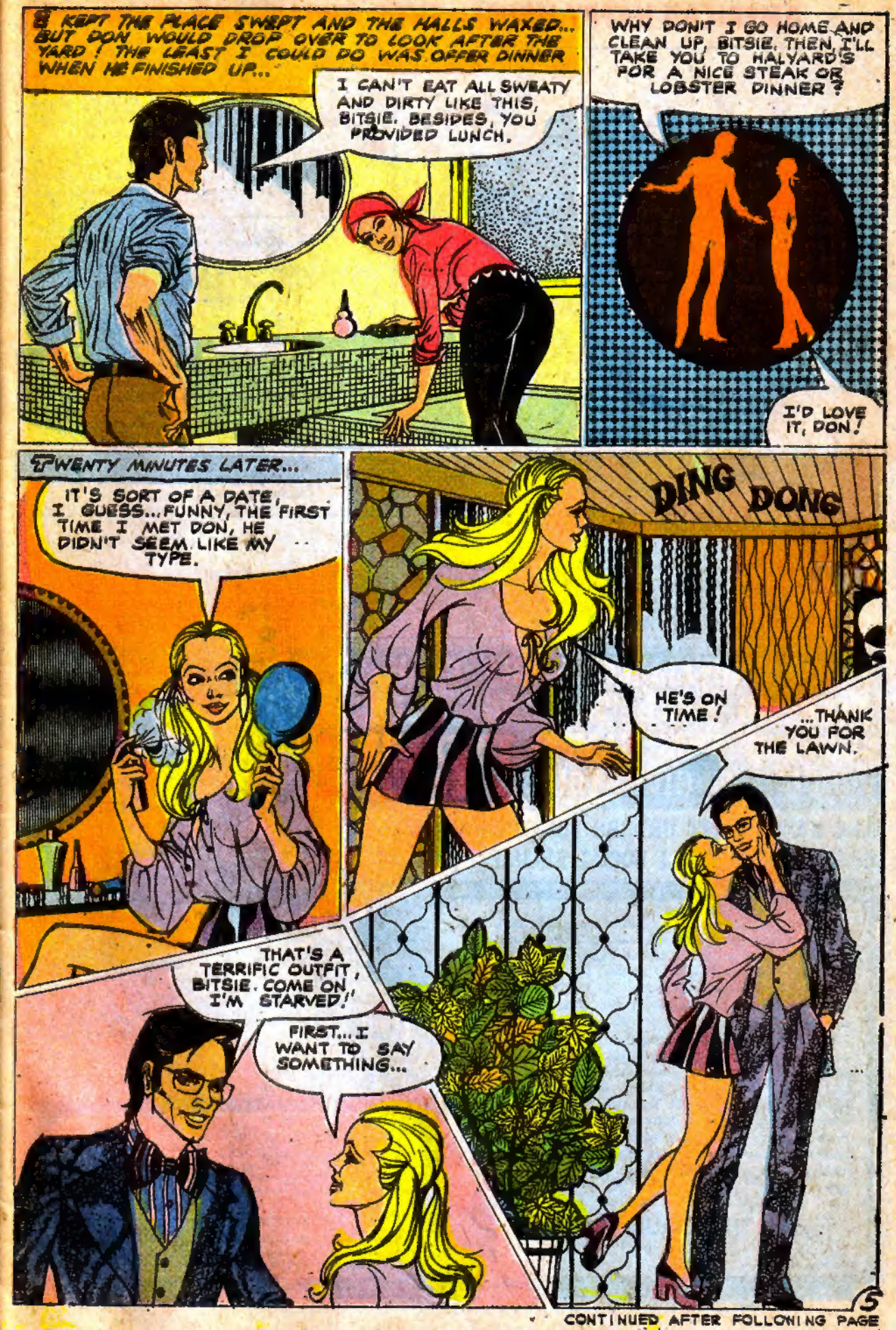
Buck Mason
c/o Charlton Comics
Charlton Building
Derby, Ct. 06418


THREE ROOMS FOR TWO
I'D BEEN LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT FOR A MONTH... I JUST COULDN'T FIND A CLEAN PLACE IN A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD AT A RENT I COULD AFFORD... UNTIL I ANSWERED THE AD FOR THE PLACE ON MAPLE AVENUE.
I EXPECTED YOU TO BE MARRIED... WITH A HUSBAND? THE RENT FOR THIS APARTMENT IS ONLY $75 BECAUSE...
I KNOW I'VE GOT TO CLEAN THE HALL, MOW THE LAWN, AND SHOVEL THE WALK WHEN IT SNOWS, MR. ALLEN. I CAN DO ALL THAT!
I KNOW I'M SMALL BUT I'M STRONGER THAN I LOOK!
WELL..YOU CAN HAVE THE APARTMENT BUT THE LEASE WILL SPECIFY YOUR DUTIES AND IF YOU CAN'T PERFORM THEM, YOU..
YOU WON'T HAVE TO EVICT ME, MR. ALLEN. I'LL LEAVE QUIETLY IF I FAIL!


I SIGNED THE LEASE AND MOVED IN. I LOVED THE PLACE RIGHT FROM THE START.
THIS IS BEAUTIFUL. MR. AND MRS. WARDELL WHO LIVE UPSTAIRS ARE PRETTY NICE!
THE LANDLORD SHOWED ME THE MOWER. I'LL HAVE TO CUT THE GRASS TOMORROW.
DING DONG
WHO CAN THAT BE? MAYBE A KID SELLING CANDY FOR SOME WORTHY CAUSE OR...
MR. ALLEN! HOW NICE... WON'T YOU COME IN?
I CERTAINLY WILL. DO YOU REALIZE WHAT TIME IT IS?
OF COURSE. IT'S NOT QUITE EIGHT THIRTY. WHY ARE YOU TURNING DOWN MY STEREO?
MR. AND MRS. WARDELL GO TO BED AT EIGHT O'CLOCK, MISS TAIT.
I REALIZE YOU WEREN'T AWARE OF THAT. I SHOULD'VE WARNED YOU. IF YOU CAN'T ACCEPT THESE CONDITIONS, I'LL REFUND...
OH, NO! I LOVE THIS APARTMENT, MR. ALLEN! I WON'T PLAY THE RADIO OR STEREO THAT LOUD AGAIN!
HOW ABOUT COFFEE, MR. ALLEN. AND HOW ABOUT YOU CALLING ME BITSIE. WHAT'S YOUR FIRST NAME?
DONALD... OR DON! YOU'VE FIXED THIS PLACE UP NICELY.
2


... SO WHEN MY MOTHER MOVED IN WITH MY SISTER AND HER HUSBAND, SHE ASKED ME TO LOOK AFTER THE PROPERTY.
YOU KNOW I WORK FOR A LAW FIRM. WHAT DO YOU DO, DON?
I'M AN INSURANCE INVESTIGATOR.
SORT OF LIKE A PRIVATE EYE, MR. ALLEN?
HE TOLD ME ABOUT SOME CLAIMS HE'D HANDLED... AN EXPENSIVE FIRE HE PROVED WAS ARSON, A FAKE ROBBERY SO THE 'VICTIM' COULD DEFRAUD THE COMPANY...
I HOPE YOUR COMPANY APPRECIATES HOW VALUABLE YOU ARE, DON.
THEY SEEM SATISFIED, BITSIE.
I'M GOING TO MOW THE LAWN SATURDAY MORNING, DON. I'VE KEPT THE PLACE TIDY SO FAR, HAVEN'T I?
IT LOOKS NEAT, BITSIE!
THAT LAWN MOWER WEIGHS MORE THAN I DO! I'LL EITHER HAVE TO PAY A KID TO DO IT OR...
SATURDAY MORNING...
HAVING TROUBLE, BITSIE?
ARE YOU SURE THIS GADGET WORKS, DON?
3


THERE!
VOOOMM!
I GUESS MEN ARE JUST BETTER AT THOSE THINGS!
I WEEDED AROUND THE FLOWER BEDS AND TRIMMED THE GRASS NEAR THE HOUSE. WANT ME TO FINISH DOING THE LAWN?
I'LL DO IT, BITSIE. I NEED THE EXERCISE.
IT'S AFTER ELEVEN, DON. I'LL GO IN AND FIX US SOME LUNCH!
I MADE IT LOOK CASUAL BUT I REALLY WORKED TO GET EVERYTHING JUST RIGHT. WE HAD A CUP OF SOUP, A SALAD, AND HAMBURGER WITH RAW ONION...
HOW'S THE HAMBURGER, DON? TOO RARE OR...?
YOU CAN'T START A MOWER VERY WELL BUT YOU'RE A TERRIFIC COOK!
4


I KEPT THE PLACE SWEPT AND THE HALLS WAXED... BUT DON WOULD DROP OVER TO LOOK AFTER THE YARD! THE LEAST I COULD DO WAS OFFER DINNER WHEN HE FINISHED UP...
I CAN'T EAT ALL SWEATY AND DIRTY LIKE THIS, BITSIE. BESIDES, YOU PROVIDED LUNCH.
WHY DON'T I GO HOME AND CLEAN UP, BITSIE. THEN I'LL TAKE YOU TO HALYARD'S FOR A NICE STEAK OR LOBSTER DINNER?
I'D LOVE IT, DON!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
IT'S SORT OF A DATE, I GUESS... FUNNY, THE FIRST TIME I MET DON, HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE MY TYPE.
DING DONG
HE'S ON TIME!
...THANK YOU FOR THE LAWN.
THAT'S A TERRIFIC OUTFIT, BITSIE. COME ON, I'M STARVED!
FIRST... I WANT TO SAY SOMETHING...

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

DINNER WAS PROBABLY DELICIOUS BUT THE STEAK COULD'VE BEEN CARDBOARD AND I'D NEVER NOTICE. I'D DISCOVERED SOMETHING WHEN I GAVE HIM THAT 'THANK YOU' KISS...

HALF THE MEN IN HERE WOULD GIVE ANYTHING TO BE IN MY PLACE, BITSIE!

LOOK...LET'S NOT HAVE COFFEE HERE. I BAKED A CAKE LAST NIGHT...WE'LL GO HOME AND I'LL MAKE COFFEE TO GO WITH IT.

HOW DID YOU GUESS I WAS WISHING FOR EXACTLY THIS, BITSIE?

I THINK WHEN PEOPLE LIKE EACH OTHER THEY CAN SENSE WHAT THE OTHER IS THINKING, DON'T YOU?

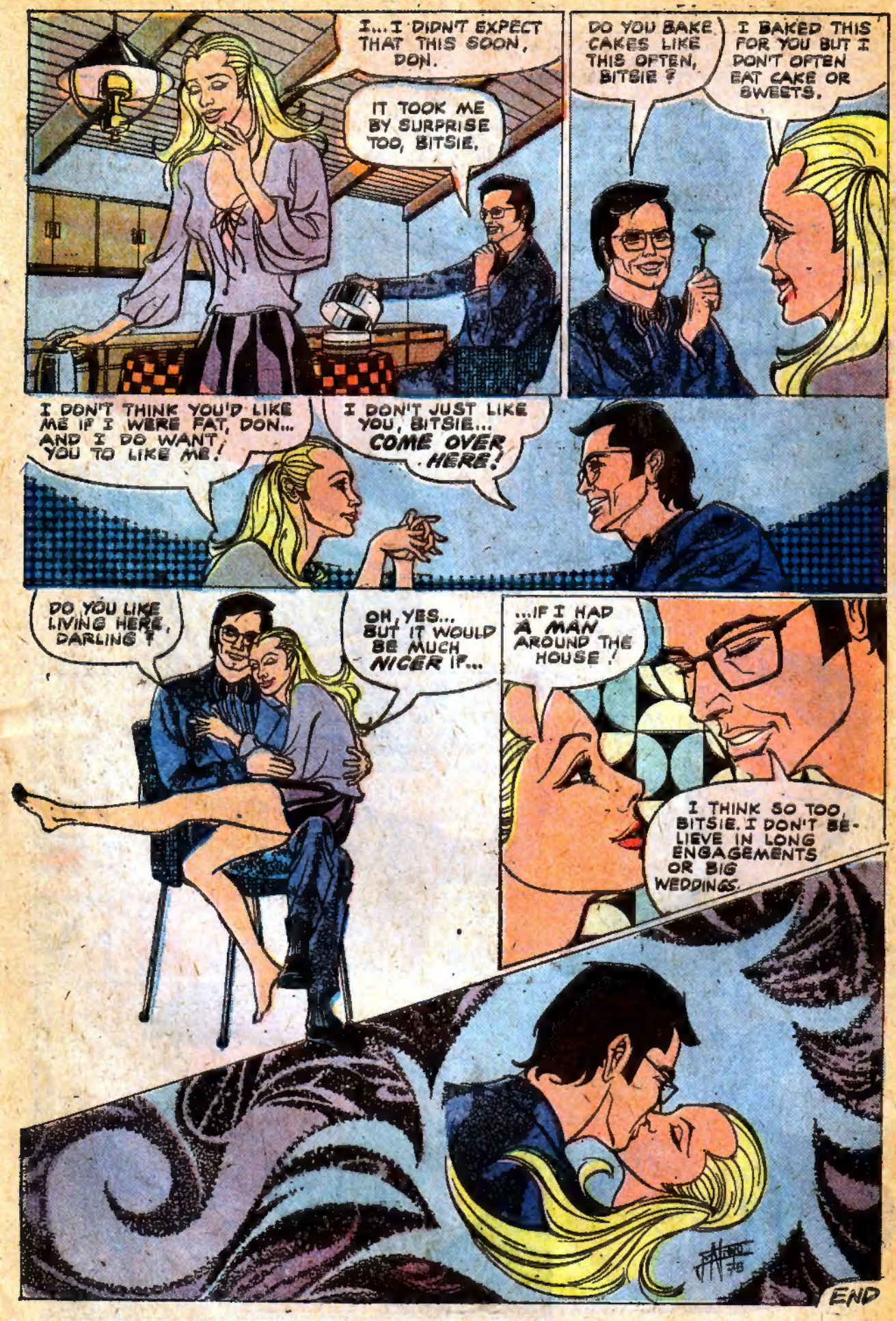
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, BITSIE.

I PUT THE COFFEE ON, THINKING OF OUR CONVERSATION IN THE CAR ...AND DON CAME INTO THE KITCHEN.

IN THE CAR, BITSIE, DID YOU GUESS THAT I WANTED TO KISS YOU?

YES, DON, AND YOU?

I HOPED, BITSIE...


I...I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT THIS SOON, DON.
IT TOOK ME BY SURPRISE TOO, BITSIE.
DO YOU BAKE CAKES LIKE THIS OFTEN, BITSIE ?
I BAKED THIS FOR YOU BUT I DON'T OFTEN EAT CAKE OR SWEETS.
I DON'T THINK YOU'D LIKE ME IF I WERE FAT, DON... AND I DO WANT YOU TO LIKE ME!
I DON'T JUST LIKE YOU, BITSIE... COME OVER HERE!
DO YOU LIKE LIVING HERE, DARLING ?
OH, YES... BUT IT WOULD BE MUCH NICER IF...
...IF I HAD A MAN AROUND THE HOUSE !
I THINK SO TOO, BITSIE. I DON'T BELIEVE IN LONG ENGAGEMENTS OR BIG WEDDINGS.
END

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VIGILANTE 407
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